

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 06415

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR NATO
SUBJECT: NATO FUNDING FOR POMCUS AND AMMUNITION STORAGE

REFS: (A) CINCEUR MSG ECJ4/7 10404, 241613 JUN 77, (B)
USAREUR MSG AEAEN-CN, 241414Z JUNE 77, (C) DA MSG DAEN-
ZCP, 101417Z JUNE 77

1. WE FULLY SUPPORT THE UTILITY OF PREFINANCING POMCUS
AND AMMUNITION STORAGE PROJECTS AGAINST POSSIBLE LATER
RECOUPMENT THROUGH NATO INFRASTRUCTURE.
2. WE DO IN FACT HAVE A STRONG PRECEDENT FOR PROPOSING
NEW PROJECTS UNDER THE RUBRIC OF CONTROLLED HUMIDITY (CHS)
OR PREPOSITIONED STORAGE. THE BASIC REFERENCE IS SHAPE
DOCUMENT 6150/18-5-280/71 OF 15 JULY 1971 (NATO CONFIDENT-
IAL) UNDER SUBJECT "PHYSICAL FACILITIES SUPPORTED BY SHAPE
FOR CONTROLLED HUMIDITY STORAGE." THE KEY QUOTE IS AS
FOLLOWS: "THE CRITERIA FOR CONTROLLED HUMIDITY STORAGE
FORWARDED BY REF A HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE NATO INFRA-
STRUCTURE COMMITTEE FOR THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL AT ITS
MEETING 6 JULY 1971 AND NOW ARE CONSIDERED AS APPROVED
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NATO CRITERIA." THE REFERENCE A REFERRED TO WAS INFRA-
STRUCTURE COMMITTEE DOCUMENT AC/4-DS/843 OF 8 JULY 1971
AND ITS COMPANION MILITARY COMMITTEE DOCUMENT WAS MC 170
(FINAL) DATED 4 OCTOBER 1971.

3. THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS, WHICH WILL ALSO LEAD ADDRESSEES
TO FURTHER REFERENCES, WERE THE CULMINATION OF A DISCUSSION

IN BOTH THE MILITARY AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEES DURING WHICH THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE WAS TO PROVIDE CONTROLLED HUMIDITY STORAGE FACILITIES FOR THE PREPOSITIONED ORGANIC COMBAT EQUIPMENT OF DUAL-BASED NATO-COMMITTED ARMY UNITS. THIS WAS OBVIOUSLY WITH REFERENCE TO US ARMY UNITS AND UPON AGREEMENT OF THE CRITERIA AND AT THE SUGGESTION OF NORWAY, THE REFERENCE TO "DUAL-BASED ARMY UNITS" WAS DELETED. THE PURPOSE NEVERTHELESS REMAINS CLEAR AND WE BELIEVE THAT THE US SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONTINUE MAKING USE OF THIS CRITERION FOR PURPOSES SIMILAR TO THOSE IN THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL.

4. PROGRAMMING ACTIONS ON CHS FOR PREPOSITIONED EQUIPMENT WERE TAKEN IN THE FOLLOWING SLICES: SLICE XVIII, SERIAL 187, GERMANY, ESTIMATED AT IAU 3.054 MILLION; SLICE XX, SERIAL 120A, VARIOUS LOCATIONS, AT AN ESTIMATED IAU 3.648 MILLION; AND SLICE XXI, SERIAL 110K, NORWAY, AT AN ESTIMATED IAU 1.000 MILLION. THESE PROGRAMMING ACTIONS WERE FOLLOWED BY SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATIONS FOR WHICH WE HAVE A FEW REFERENCES AS FOLLOWS: AC/4(PP)D/9953 AND AC/4(PP)R/930; AC/4(PP)D/9497 AND AC/4(PP)R/888; AND AC/4(PP)D/8951 AND AC/4(PP)R/864. WE MAY BE ABLE TO ADD TO THESE REFERENCES AFTER SOME FURTHER RESEARCH.

5. IT WILL, OF COURSE, BE IMPORTANT THAT THE US COME IN WITH SOLID AND DEFENSIBLE REQUIREMENTS, AND THAT THEIR
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RELATIONSHIP TO US DPQ COMMITMENTS BE CLEARLY STATED. IF IN THE VIEW OF ADDRESSEES THERE ARE LIKELY TO BE ENOUGH PROJECTS TO JUSTIFY SUCH A PROPOSAL, WE COULD PROPOSE THAT THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES ESTABLISH A NEW CATEGORY FOR PREPOSITIONED EQUIPMENT STORAGE. IN ANY CASE, WE BELIEVE A REVIVAL OF THIS TYPE OF PROJECT IN THE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM WOULD BE TIMELY, PARTICULARLY CONSIDERING THE CURRENT NATO INTEREST IN THE "LONG-TERM INITIATIVES" AMONG WHICH RAPID REINFORCEMENT AND ADEQUATE STOCKPILING FIGURE PROMINENTLY. BENNETT

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